

Application No. 10/812,888
Amendment under 37 CFR 1.111
Reply to Office Action dated August 23, 2006
November 24, 2006

REMARKS

By this amendment, claim 8 has been cancelled and claim 9 has been amended in the application. Currently, claims 1-7 and 9-10 are pending in the application.

The indication that claims 1-7 contain allowable subject matter is noted with appreciation.

Claim 8 was rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. By this amendment, claim 8 has been cancelled so this rejection is now moot. Applicant respectfully submits that he does not disclaim the portable feature of the invention and this claim is only being cancelled to reduce the pending issues rather than add additional limitations to claim 8.

Claims 9 and 10 were rejected under 35 USC 102(a) as being fully met by Chu (U.S. Patent No. 6,703,550). This rejection is respectfully traversed in view of the amendments to claim 9 which specifically add the allowable features in claim 1 as applied for a plurality of axes and a plurality of detection sections.

Specifically, claim 9 has been amended to recite "a supply section that supplies, for each of the axes, model operation

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information indicative of an operating state to be taken by said operator member;" and "a reactive force information generation section that generates, for each of the axes, reactive force information corresponding to a difference between the operating state detected for the axis by one of said plurality of detection sections and the operating state indicated by the model operation information supplied for the axis".

As admitted in the office action on page 3 by the Examiner, claim 1 does not include the "reactive force information generation section" as recited. Claim 9 has now been amended to recite the features of the supply section and the reactive force information generation section from claim 1 and these features have been slightly changed so as to correspond to a plurality of axes and a plurality of detection sections.

Accordingly, applicant respectfully submits that amended independent claim 9 and dependent claim 10 are now allowable over Chu and the other prior art of record.

As a further issue, applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to consider the two references submitted in an Information Disclosure Statement with the filing of the


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application on March 31, 2004 and return an initialed copy of the PTO-1449 Form submitted with the Information Disclosure Statement when acting on this amendment.

In view of foregoing claim amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that this application is now in condition for allowance and an action to this effect is respectfully requested.

If there are any questions or concerns regarding the amendments or these remarks, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,


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